



Practitioner's Docket No. 62012B (1062-010C1)

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Vikas Gupta, Hein J. Koelman, Steve J. Rogers, Eric Kurtycz,  
and Ravi Ramanathan

Application No.: 10/776,087

Group No.: 3612

Filed: 02/11/2004

Examiner: Gregory A. Blankenship

For: INSTRUMENT PANEL ASSEMBLY

**Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicants submit this statement in accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56 and 1.97-1.98. The submission made herewith is in no way intended as an admission that the cited items constitute material prior art or otherwise would render the claims unpatentable in any way. The submission also is in no way intended to substitute for the Examiner's own independent investigation.

Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature together with a listing on forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are submitted herewith. Copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications have not been submitted due to the waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i). Applicants respectfully solicit the Examiner's consideration of the cited references and entry

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. section 1.8(a))**

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

**MAILING**

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number EV458955387US, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 10-05-04

**FACSIMILE**

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Roni L. Masquelier  
Signature

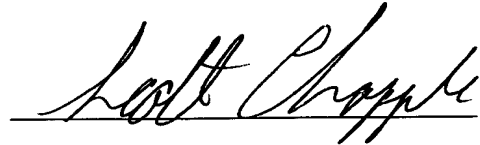
Roni L. MASQUELIER  
(type or print name of person certifying)

Page 1

thereof into the record of this application.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the mailing of a first Office Action or Notice of Allowance. Please charge the fee of \$180.00 to deposit account 04-1512. If any additional fees are due with the filing of this paper please charge the amount to deposit account 04-1512. A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Date: 5 October 2004



Scott A. Chapple  
Registration No. 46,287  
Dobrusin & Thennisch PC  
401 South Old Woodward Avenue  
Suite 311  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
248-593-9900  
Customer No. 25215

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

**Complete if Known**

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/776,087             |
| Filing Date            | 02/11/2004             |
| First Named Inventor   | Vikas Gupta            |
| Art Unit               | 3612                   |
| Examiner Name          | Gregory A. Blankenship |
| Attorney Docket Number | 62012B (1062-010C1)    |

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,557,929                            | 05/06/2003                     | Fox et al.   |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,536,802                            | 03/25/2003                     | Sutherland et al.                                  |   |
|                       |                          | US- 2002/0058764                         | 05/16/2002                     | Sonnenschein et al.                                |   |
|                       |                          | US- 2003/0001410                         | 01/02/2003                     | Cate et al.  |   |
|                       |                          | US- 2004/0108744                         | 06/10/2004                     | Scheib et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,497,432                            | 12/24/2002                     | Scheib et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                          | US- 5,957,498                            | 09/28/1999                     | Tesauro et al.                                     |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,237,956                            | 05/29/2001                     | Truman et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                          | US- 5,539,070                            | 07/23/1996                     | Zharov et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                          | US- 5,106,928                            | 04/21/1992                     | Skoultchi et al.                                   |   |
|                       |                          | US- 5,686,544                            | 11/11/1997                     | Pocius   |   |
|                       |                          | US- 5,883,208                            | 03/16/1999                     | Deviny   |   |
|                       |                          | US- 5,718,977                            | 02/17/1998                     | Pocius   |   |
|                       |                          | US- 2001/0024035                         | 09/27/2001                     | Schieb et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                          | US- 2002/024236                          | 02/28/2002                     | Schieb et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,502,897                            | 01/07/2003                     | Neuss et al.                                       |   |
|                       |                          | US- 2002/0145309                         | 10/10/2002                     | Shikata et al.                                     |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,450,533                            | 09/17/2002                     | Kimura et al.                                      |   |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                       |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                       |                          | WO 99/52703   | 12/17/1999                     | RCC Regional Compact Car AG                        |   |                |
|                       |                          | WO 01/44311   | 06/21/2001                     | The Dow Chemical Company                           |   |                |
|                       |                          | EP 1 350 711 A1   | 10/08/2003                     | Denso Thermal Systems S.p.A.                       |   |                |
|                       |                          | DE 196 26 441 A   | 01/15/1998                     | Sommer-Allibert-Lignotock GmbH                     |   |                |
|                       |                          | WO 2004/074026 A2   | 09/02/2004                     | Dow Global Technologies Inc                        |   |                |

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

1

Q

1

Application Number

10/776.087

Filing Date

02/11/2004

First Named Inventor

Vikas Gupta

Art Unit

3612

Examiner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gregory A. Blankenship

Attorney Docket Number

62012B (1062-010C1)

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                    |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                    |                       | FR 2 834 270  | 07/04/2003                     | SAI Automotive Allibert Industrie                  |   |                |
|                    |                       | FR 2 834 271  | 07/04/2003                     | SAI Automotive Allibert Industrie                  |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).<sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 0

**Complete if Known**

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/776,087             |
| Filing Date            | 02/11/2004             |
| First Named Inventor   | Vikas Gupta            |
| Group Art Unit         | 3612                   |
| Examiner Name          | Gregory A. Blankenship |
| Attorney Docket Number | 62012B(1062-010C1)     |

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
|                       |                          | Copending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/466,321 filed December 17, 1999  |                |
|                       |                          | Copending U.S. Application Serial No. 60/447,117 filed February 13, 2003  |                |
|                       |                          | Copending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/403,603 filed March 31, 2003   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |

 Examiner  
Signature

 Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.